The Field Museum

Natural News

Weekly Staff Newsletter
July 16, 1999

Who ya gonna call?

PROBLEM BUSTERS • 8111

Use this new phone number to report any non-emergency problems in the public Museum:

PROBLEM BUSTERS • 8111

Any time you see:

* broken exhibit equipment
* a light out in a stairwell
* graffiti anywhere
* equipment left unattended

or any other non-emergency problem in the public areas, just call

PROBLEM BUSTERS • 8111

Twice a day someone from Public Services will retrieve all messages left at this number and notify the appropriate departments.

No more flipping through the telephone directory trying to figure out who's responsible for what. One call does it all.

PROBLEM BUSTERS • 8111

FIELD NOTES

Week of July 19

Public Events/Special Events

Lecture: Harrison H. Schmidt
"A Trip to the Moon and Beyond"
• Tuesday 2 p.m. in JST

Downtown Thursday Nights
(Museum open until 8 p.m.)
• Thursday

Millennium Mosaic Project
• Friday and Saturday

Staff/Volunteer Events

Aerobics Class
• Tuesday 5 p.m., Ground Floor East
• Thurs. 5 p.m., Siragusa Student Ctr.

Tuesday Noon Seminar Series
• Zoology Classroom

Running Club
• Wednesday 5 p.m.
Meets at West Door

ATTENTION MOVIE BUFFS!!

Call or stop by the Human Resources office for discounted movie tickets for Loews/Cineplex Odeon/ Sony Theatres for only $5. *(Check your newspaper to make sure discounted tickets may be used for your movie.)*

PROJECT MILLENNIUM

Sharing hopes and dreams, one Tile at a time

Project Millennium's newest undertaking, the Millennium Mosaic Project, kicks off today, Friday, July 16, under the tents on the east terrace of The Field Museum, and all Museum employees and volunteers are invited to participate.

The Millennium Mosaic Project is a large-scale public art project where members of the public are invited, every Friday and Saturday through September 4, to design a ceramic tile expressing their hopes and dreams for the new millennium. The thousands of tiles produced will then be glazed and fired, eventually to become a large mural permanently installed in the new Millennium Park, located in Grant Park just north of the Art Institute.

The tilemaking sessions are supervised by artists from the Chicago Public Art Group between 10 a.m. and 4 p.m. and begin every 30 minutes on the hour and half-hour. Please note that we are interested in hosting groups, especially for the morning sessions, so if you are aware of any day camp, church, student or senior groups who might be looking for a interesting free activity, contact Project Millennium Intern **Elizabeth Sundstrom** at ext.7412.

Stop by and leave your mark for the new millennium!

Submitted by **Maureen King**

ACADEMIC AFFAIRS

Meenakshi Wadhwa promoted to Associate Curator

The Geology Department would like to formally announce that **Meenakshi Wadhwa** has been promoted to Associate Curator of Meteoritics.

Meenakshi's accomplishments since starting at the Museum (too numerous to list in this forum) include securing extremely competitive funding for research from both NSF and NASA, having Asteroid 8356 (see Natural News of June 11) named after her by the International Astronomical Union, and last but not least her ambitious plan to have a Geochronology Lab built here at The Field Museum. The Geochronology Lab is a massive undertaking, and Meenakshi has done a laudable job coordinating and securing commitments from the museum, NSF and NASA.

All of us here in the department are delighted to hear of Meenakshi's promotion and hope to be working with her for many, many more years. Congratulations, Meenakshi!

Submitted by **John Flynn**

Fialkowski Appointed to State's Science Literary Council

The Illinois State Board of Education (ISBE) has named and convened the first meeting of the newly appointed Science Literacy Advisory Council. **Carol Fialkowski** (ECP) has been appointed as a member of this Council. The Council is charged with advising ISBE on the implementation of the Scientific Literacy Program on ways to coordinate science efforts across the state and providing scientific expertise to the Program.

Members represent constituency groups across the state such as regional superintendents and offices of education, the board of higher education and associates of science teachers of biology, physics and chemistry. Carol represents the informal science education network, i.e., those organizations, agencies and museums offering out-of-school science learning.

Many of the programs Carol has spearheaded over the past 10 years have received considerable funding from the science literacy grant program. This experience with the program's past focus provides a historical context as visions and strategies are developed for the next five years.

The Field Associates proudly present

Dance with the ants!

There's a party goin' down around here and you're invited!
We're celebrating the opening of *Underground Adventure* with some get down and funky entertainment from Chicago's hottest 70's dance band ... out of sight food from our town's favorite eateries ... and, of course, a chance to get small ... really small ... for a bug's eye view of the underground world beckoning just below the surface.

Date: Friday, July 23, 1999, 7:30 p.m. to midnight.
Place: Stanley Field Hall

Tickets: **Special staff rate of $40 per person.**
All others $65 in advance, or $80 at the door.
(Please reserve your space by noon on Thursday, July 22.)

After Party: Join us at Narcisse, 710 North Clark Street immediately following the party.

Entertainment by The Afrodisiacs 70's dance band.
Food by Big Bowl, Bistro Zinc, Bricks, Brio, Corner Bakery, foodlife, Krispy Kreme, Marché, Red Light, Spago, and more!
Full open bar. Cocktail attire. Be ready to shake your thorax!
Please call Amanda Geppert at ext. 7133 with any questions or to make your reservation.

SOLDIER FIELD PARKING

On the dates listed below, all monthly hang tags and discount coupons <u>will not be accepted</u> in all lots, since the attendance for these events at Soldier Field will exceed 15,000 guests:

DATE	EVENT	TIME
July 17	International Soccer Game	5:00 P.M.
July 31	Chicago Fire Soccer Game	3:00 P.M.
July 31	Pan Am Festival	12:00 P.M.
August 1	Pan Am Festival	12:00 P.M.
August 7	Chicago Bears Football Game	7:00 P.M.
August 21	Chicago Bears Football Game	7:00 P.M.
August 22	International Soccer Game	5:00 P.M.
September 4	Chicago Classic Bears Football Game	6:30 P.M.
September 12	Chicago Bears Football Game	12:00 P.M.
September 19	Chicago Bears Football Game	12:00 P.M.
October 3	Chicago Bears Football Game	12:00 P.M.
October 17	Chicago Bears Football Game	12:00 P.M.
November 14	Chicago Bears Football Game	12:00 P.M.
December 5	Chicago Bears Football Game	12:00 P.M.
December 19	Chicago Bears Football Game	12:00 P.M.
January 2	Chicago Bears Football Game	12:00 P.M.

Please note the above dates fall on either a Saturday or Sunday.

On the dates listed below, all monthly hang tags and discount coupons <u>will be accepted</u>.

DATE	EVENT	TIME
July 20	Chicago Fire Soccer Game	7:30 P.M.
July 23	Chicago Fire Soccer Game	7:00 P.M.
August 8	Chicago Fire Soccer Game	12:00 P.M.
August 14	Chicago Fire Soccer Game	7:30 P.M.
August 25	Chicago Fire Soccer Game	7:30 P.M.
August 28	Chicago Fire Soccer Game	7:00 P.M.
September 1	U.S. Open Cup Game	7:00 P.M.
September 8	International Soccer Game	6:30 P.M.
September 17	Chicago Fire Soccer Game	7:30 P.M.
September 23	Chicago Fire Soccer Game	7:00 P.M.

We recommend that Field Museum staff park in the East Soldier Field lot until 5:00 p.m. If staff needs to stay later, they may want to park in the Planetarium Lot until 6:00 p.m. All Shedd staff should be directed to park in the Planetarium Lot until 6:00 p.m.

On the days that the monthly hang tags and discount coupons will not be accepted, employee parking will be available in the West Lot on a first come first serve basis as parking spaces permit.

If you are conducting meetings or planning an event and are not providing parking for your guests, please inform your guests of the Soldier Field Event Parking Rates.

Soccer Games and Pan Am Festival parking rate is $10 for cars.

Bears Football Game parking rate is $20 for cars.

The Event Parking Rate for buses is $40.

If you have any questions, please contact the Public Services Office at 7911.

Fun Phone Facts

Do you know how to . . . .

Bypass a greeting

You have called someone and been forwarded to a voice mailbox. To bypass their personal greeting and leave a message, press the pound (#) key.

Dial by name

If you forget another subscriber's mailbox number when sending a message, press pound (#) to use the dial by name feature. You are then prompted to spell the last name of the recipient. The system plays the recipient's name as soon as it has received enough digits to match a mailbox or it plays a list of subscribers if there is more than one match.

Delete a message quickly

To delete messages quickly, press 3-3 then press 7.
The 3-3 command skips to the end of the message and 7 deletes it.

Submit a Telephone Work Request

You may submit a telephone work request by e-mail or fax. Forms are located at the switchboard (see the copy on the back of this page). No telephone work requests will be taken over the telephone—all requests must be in writing and contain the following information:

a) Date of Request
b) Name of requester
c) Department/room number
d) Extension
e) Problem (if it is a repair)
f) New phone features needed (voice mail, fax, etc.)

If you need further assistance, please do not hesitate to contact Anita Purnell by phone at ext. 8110, by fax at (312) 665-8112, or by e-mail at apurnell@fmnh.org.

TELEPHONE ORDER AND REPAIR FORM

PLEASE COMPLETE ALL INFORMATION. All telephone requests are required in writing. NO, REQUEST will be taken over the telephone.

DATE OF REQUEST: _____ **DATE COMPLETED:** _____

FROM: _____
(Name of Requester) Telephone Extension Number

_____
(Department or Division) Room Number

REPAIRS

What REPAIR problem are you having with your telephone?

_____

_____

TELEPHONE ORDER

To determine what type of telephone you need, please state how many buttons you want on your new telephone. _____

Do you want a display phone? (This indicates who is calling) Yes _____ **or No** _____

Do you want any restrictions on the telephone? (Local, long distance, restricted) _____

Do you want voice mail? _____ **Modem line?** _____ **Fax line?** _____

Other type of phone service would you like, please explain:

_____

Additional comments:

For office use only:

Date of Completion _____ **Total hours** _____

Dillon Receives Grant from American Orchid Society

Michael Dillon, Curator in Botany, recently received a $6,400 grant from the Research Committee of the American Orchid Society specifically to purchase a quality dissecting microscope for study and illustrations of Peruvian orchids.

The microscope will be placed in the Museo de Historia Natural on the campus of the Universidad Privada Antenor Orrego, Trujillo, Peru, where Dillon is a Visiting Professor. The botanists at UPAO are collaborating with two professional orchidologists and a professional orchid illustrator to describe and illustrate orchids from highly threatened habitats throughout northern Peru.

In 1993, it was estimated that Peru had over 1600 described orchid species and to date the project has illustrated 600 species including 154 that were new to Peru and 111 that were new to science—a 17% increase in the recorded orchids species since 1993! Among the new species, many are showy orchids with great horticultural potential.

For more information go to www.sacha.org/famil/orchids/Icones_index.htm

Peruvian anthropologist praises Museum's collections

While participating in the recent "El Nino in Peru; Biology and Culture Over 10,000 Years" conference, Peruvian anthropologist Jorge da Silva had time to visit the Museum's archaeological collections and spoke to the anthropology staff about the importance of one of its lesser known collections.

Since the de-installation of Hall 9 in February of 1998, Elisa Aguilar, Barbara Burkhardt, Jaime Gont, Steve LaPointe, Susan Lerner, and Christopher Philipp have been moving, rehousing, reorganizing, and maintaining an inventory of the Meso, Central, and South American archaeological and ethnographic collections.

Dr. da Silva, who studies Peruvian cultures, observed that the collection was "well organized, easy to find, and very consolidated" and was particularly interested and impressed with the central Peruvian pottery collection from the Chancay culture (c. 1100–1400 AD). The Chancay are usually known for their textiles (considered among the best of all Peru), but here at The Field Museum we have a fairly large collection of 200 pottery specimens about which little is known. Dr. da Silva pointed out that this black-on-white ware is sometimes termed as "ugly" in comparison to the flashier Moche and Nazca pottery from the north and south coasts of Peru.

Since the pottery is often considered less spectacular, it has been less studied, and therefore provides a great opportunity for researchers today. Also, because Chancay pottery would not sell well on the black market, looters would often leave it untouched and intact. As a result The Field Museum now possesses a collection of mostly whole pottery which is highly significant because of the accuracy and depth of its reflection of Chancay iconography, symbols, and even textile patterns.

Submitted by **Chris Philipp**

NEWS YOU CAN USE

It's Official!

The Field Museum has a new mailing address. The address is now:

1400 South Lake Shore Drive
Chicago, Illinois 60605-2496

Although the "Roosevelt Road at Lake Shore Drive" address which is currently on the majority of printed pieces at the Museum will still work, everyone in all departments is encouraged to use the new address in all future printed pieces and correspondence.

If you have any questions regarding the address change, call Marla Camp at ext. 7141.

COMING ATTRACTIONS

Astronaut to speak to staff, students

Astronaut and geologist Harrison H. Schmitt will speak to staff and visiting students on Tuesday, July 20 to commemorate the 30th anniversary of the first walk on the moon (July 20, 1969). Schmitt personally retrieved the moon rock which is now on display at the Museum. His talk is entitled "A Trip to the Moon and Beyond."

A block of 100 tickets is available to staff on a first-come, first-serve basis. The lecture will begin at 2 p.m. in James Simpson Theatre. Staff tickets will be available Monday by contacting Sandra Blake (ext. 7526) or Mark Denardo (ext. 7535) in the Education Department.

CCUC and the Education Department present

Jorge Ventocilla, Conservation Biologist
Smithsonian Tropical Research Institute

Nature and Culture in Kuna Yala: Learning with the Children
Naturaleza y Cultura en Kuna Yala: Aprendiendo con los Ninos

Sunday, July 18 • 2 p.m. • Rice Resource Center

I Field Good (dadadadadadada) I Knew That I Would!

Attention Aerobics Participants

Please note that the July 22 Aerobics Class
will take place in The Field Museum's
Siragusa Student Center
located on the Ground Floor